6/16/83

David Thomason Alexander
Executive Director NLG.
P.O. Box 7214
Des Moines Iowa 50309

Dear Mr. Alexander:

At the suggestion of Paul Munson I am writing you for a membership application for the Numismatic Literary Guild. Enclosed is a stamped self-addressed envelope.

Very Truly Yours.

Roger S. Cohen Jr.

ROGER S. COHEN, JR., P. A.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
4701 SANGAMORE ROAD
BETHESDA, MARYLAND 20816
PHONE: (301) 229-7700

ROGER S. COHEN, JR., C.P.A.
MICHAEL E. REGAN, C.P.A.
DANIEL A. SMITH, C.P.A.

November 8, 1983

David Thomason Alexander
Executive Director
Numismatic Literary Guild
P. O. Box 7214
Des Moines, Iowa 50309

Dear Mr. Alexander:

On June 16, 1983 at the suggestion of Mr. Paul Munson I wrote to you requesting a membership application be sent to me. To date I have not heard from you.

Please honor my second request for an application with a response.

Very truly yours,

Roger S. Cohen, Jr.

cc: Paul Munson

DAVID THOMASON ALEXANDER

P.O. BOX 7218
DES MOINES, IOWA 50322
515 [illegible]

American Numismatic Association
Society for International Numismatics
Society of Medalists
Numismatic Association of Southern California
Numismatic Literary Guild

16 Nov. 1983

Mr. Roger S. Cohen PA
4701 Sangamore Road
Bethesda MD 20816

Dear Mr. Cohen:

I received your note of November 8 here in Des Moines. I am afraid that your original letter of June 16 got lost in the shuffle as I moved from Danbury, Connecticut to Iowa. For some time we had the disorder attendant on such a move and I fear some matters have been a whileegetting caught up.

I enclose the application you requested. Please feel free to fill out this form and return for somewhat faster action this time around!

The Numismatic Literary Guild was organized in 1968 as a focus for writers and editors in our field. Emphasis has always been on those for whom actual writing of books, magazine or newspaper columns and articles has been a significant part of their numismatic activities.

The Guild offers a widely respected Newsletter and is represented at each year's American Numismatic Association convention by a Writers' Symposium featuring top national figures in related professions and the annual Bash, a leading social highlight of the convention.

We offer a series of writing awards in all areas on numismatics from books to professional catalogs, from magazine articles to club publications in which all are invited to compete.

Please be advised that we will be happy to hear further from you on your membership application. Many thanks for your patience and continued interest in NLG.

David T. Alexander

David Thomason Alexander
Executive Director NLG

9/20/85

TO HELL WITH THIS GROUP OF JERKS

HOW THE HELL THEY CAN AWARD ANYTHING TO BREENS BULLSHIT BOOK IS BEYOND ME!

NUMISMATIC LITERARY GUILD APPLICATION *

ROGER S. COHEN JR. 301-229-7700

Applicant Phone (area code)

4701 SANGAMORE RD BETHESDA MD. 20816

Address - City State Zip

DAVID T. ALEXANDER 11/26/83

Sponsored by Date of application

Publications in which applicant has been represented: (National preferred)

Organizations, please give membership numbers when feasible

ANA 14814 EARLY AMERICAN COPPERS #188

AMERICAN NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

Numismatic Specialty or preference _____

Books by applicant (Titles please)

AMERICAN HALF CENTS 1971

AMERICAN HALF CENTS (2ND EDITION) 1982

Full Time Position ACCOUNTANT

Do you wish to accept assignments? _____ Any time limitations? _____

Are you under contract (writing)? NO

Will you serve on committees?-(nomination-numismatic judge-Director-etc.) YES

May N.L.G. issue publicity releases concerning applicant? YES

If answer is yes, please forward at your convenience, your biography & photograph.

Publications to which you subscribe. (To assist in judging articles)

How may the Numismatic Literary Guild best serve you?

Primary classification - Columnist _____ Journalist ____ Author X

Other (explain) _____

Non Numismatic Classification _____

As a member of the NUMISMATIC LITERARY GUILD I agree to respect its aims and adhere to its policies. I will participate in the nominations and elections of the best numismatic material of the year. I will nominate only those numismatic writers I feel will be an asset to N.L.G. and will assist fellow members whenever possible.

Roger S. Cohen Jr.

Signature

* Requirements for membership.

1. A numismatic writer, columnist or curator of recognized museum on a continuing basis. Staff columnist of the major numismatic press or the daily, weekly or monthly press.
2. Research Numismatist whose articles have appeared in the numismatic press on a continuing basis.
3. Editors & publishers of the numismatic press.
4. Sponsored by an N.L.G. member in good standing or the editor of your newspaper or magazine.

(Complete the form above and return to Executive Director together with three examples of your columns or numismatic writings along with your check in the amount of $25.00, made payable to the N.L.G., which covers admission fee and the current $5.00 annual dues).

Revised 1977

Numismatic Literary Guild

1 February 1986

Mr. Roger Stahel Cohen Jr.
4701 Sangamore Road
Bethesda, Maryland 20816

Dear Mr. Cohen:

I received and read with interest your communication of 18 January. I must observe that while my membership in Early American Coppers may indeed be of the "rather recent" date that you feel so obliged to note, I have followed EAC's development far longer. During my years at Coin World, 1974-1981, it was my pleasure to review many issues of Penny Wise to cover a number of EAC activities. I have had the highest respect for the organization and for its invaluable contributions to numismatic literature.

I am also well acquainted with Denis Loring and his input to the early copper corpus, and have read several of his ANA Diaries in the past. My reason for writing Dr. Lapp on 19 November was, I must remind you, "...not for Breen's personal interest only, but for a better understanding of the NLG role in numismatic publications as well."

I think it regrettable that an author of your qualifications has not become an NLG member long ago. Had you done so, I feel certain that you would have found our Bash of 1985 and earlier years to have offered far more to our members and the writing community than the hours of ego massage you letter asserts.

NLG is the only organization in numismatics today that fosters excellence and encourages writers in fields as far apart as paper money, medals, tokens, U.S. and world coins. NLG provides a much needed service on a broad front, and I feel no need to remain silent to slights directed against our activities.

For the record, all NLG awards are decided by a jury of the participating writers' peers. The identity of the judges is a matter of confidence, but all are individuals of integrity, experience as writers and editors, and of a highly valued independence of judgement. It seems scarcely necessary to note that our judges do, in fact, carefully read all material submitted.

In the spirit of independence for which they are known, the judges make their decisions without fear or favor. They do not hesitate to recognize quality at any time, nor do they fear to tread on a few toes or the egos you so deplore in the process. Controversy has never deterred NLG, not even the feline vindictiveness and corrosive hatred which seems to swirl around the half cent literature.

That massive egos abound in numismatics is all too true. That these are not confined solely to the winners of NLG Clemy awards is obvious from the very fact of this correspondence. Such unseemly invective and abuse as we see in the half cent field is not unique to that branch of our science, but NLG will not allow its work to be impeded by such feuding, however diverting it may be to the several participants.

In closing, I am intrigued as an historian by the complimentary close of your recent letter. If as the wording suggests I have been called out in connection with this matter, I will exercise my prerogative as the challenged party to choose weapons. I suggest we meet at the Milwaukee ANA Convention, the night of the NLG Bash, and belabor each other at point blank range with copies of the Breen half cent book, while standing in nine feet of water in the hotel swimming pool!

Most Sincerely,

David Thomason Alexander

David Thomason Alexander
Executive Director NLG

DTA:ipse

CC: Dr. Warren Lapp
Denis Loring

4701 SANGAMORE RD.
BETHESDA MD. 20816
JAN 18, 1986

DAVID THOMASON ALEXANDER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR NLG
P.O. BOX 7214
DES MOINES IOWA 50309

DEAR MR. ALEXANDER:

YOUR LETTER TO THE EDITOR IN THE JAN. 15TH ISSUE OF PENNY-WISE CANNOT PASS WITHOUT COMMENT BY ME. I NOTE YOU ARE A RATHER RECENT MEMBER OF EAC BUT NOT SO RECENT TO REALIZE THAT ALL "EARLY COPPER PEOPLE" DO NOT SHARE YOUR VIEWS OF THE EAC AND THE NLG, UNLESS YOU ARE AN INCREDIBLY NAIVE PERSON

DENIS LORING'S "ANA DIARY" IS AN ANNUAL ARTICLE WHICH I, AS WELL AS OTHER EAC MEMBERS, LOOK FORWARD TO EACH YEAR. HIS STYLE IS REFRESHING AND PRESENTS ONE KNOLEDGEABLE PERSONS VIEWPOINT OF A MAJOR NUMISMATIC EVENT. IF YOU FEEL THAT THE NLG WAS SLIGHTED PERHAPS THAT IS WHAT THE "BASH" DESERVED. NOT BEING A MEMBER OF THE NLG I DID NOT ATTEND, BUT I DID READ THE ACCOUNT IN COIN WORLD. FROM WHAT I READ I'M GLAD I WASN'T THERE SO THAT I AVOIDED SITTING THROUGH A LONG SESSION OF WALTER BREEN HAVING HIS EGO MASSAGED.

THE "OTHER SHORT FEATURE RECORDING HONORS RECEIVED BY EAC MEMBERS DURING THE CONVENTION" IS ANOTHER ANNUAL ARTICLE FOR PENNY-WISE, PENNED, I BELIEVE, BY OUR EDITOR DOC LAPP EVEN THOUGH NO BY-LINE APPEARS. THE ARTICLE, AS IN PRIOR YEARS, MERELY LISTS WHAT HAPPENED AND IS NOT INTENDED TO PUFF UP THE EGO OF THE RECIPIENTS OF VARIOUS AWARDS.

YOUR LETTER TO THE EDITOR, ON THE OTHER HAND, SEEMS TO CRITISIZE EAC FOR NOT MASSAGING AN IMMENSE EGO. I NOTE WITH A DEGREE OF IRONY THAT YOUR LIST OF RECIPIENTS OF THE CLEMY

AWARD INCLUDES ARLIE SLABAUGH. PLEASE REFER TO PAGE 9 (WING) OF THE BOOK, WHICH YOU SING SUCH GREAT PRAISE, FOR MR BREEN'S OPINION OF MR. SLABAUGH. PERHAPS THE NLG SHOULD READ THE BOOK BEFORE MASSAGING THE ECOMANIAC'S EGO!

I AM SIR, YOUR MOST HUMBLE AND OBEDIENT SERVANT.

Roger S. Cohen Jr.

ROGER STAHEL COHEN JR.

CC: DOC LAPP
DENIS LORING